

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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15

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-06 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 /080 W

----- 066141

R 170730Z JUN 75

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3914

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1133

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR MPOL PINT UR SO XO

SUBJECT: SOVIET INSTALLATIONS AT BERBERA

REF: STATE 137931

1. TESTIMONY BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AND OTHER USG OFFICIALS ON DIEGO GARCIA HAS GENERATED INTEREST IN PEKING. NDNA REPORTED THE SCHLESINGER STATEMENT AND THE FOREIGN NEWS ITEMS DISTRIBUTED BY THE CHINESE HAVE CARRIED DETAILED REPORTS OF THE VARIOUS TESTIMONY.

2. MAJOR TOPIC OF DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY IN PEKING THE PAST FEW DAYS HAS BEEN THE TESTIMONY ON SOVIET INSTALLATIONS AT BERBERA. SOMALI AMBASSADOR DARMAN HAS BEEN GOING AROUND TOWN DENYING THE EXISTENCE OF A USSR BASE IN HIS COUNTRY AND LABELLING THE SCHLESINGER AND NOTES TESTIMONY ON BERBERA A "PACK OF LIES". DARMAN ASKED FOR A COPY OF THE NOYES TESTIMONY WHICH I PROVIDED HIM BASED ON STATE 134645 AND HE WROTE ME A REPLY DENYING THE BASE ALLEGATION AND ENCLOSING A COPY OF THE AFP REPORT OF THE SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER'S JUNE 11 PRESS CONFERENCE.

3. I FEEL WE SHOULD TAKE ADDITIONAL STEPS HERE IN PEKING TO  
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COUNTER THE SOMALI DENIALS AND GIVE THE CHINESE, WHO ARE

KEENLY INTERESTED, WHATEVER INFORMATION WE FEEL IS USEFUL  
TO DOCUMENT THE SOVIET BUILDUP. THE CHINESE REPORT ON  
SCHLESINGER CONSPICUOUSLY OMITTED REFERENCE TO BERBERA.  
THE PICTURES PROMISED IN STATE 137931 WILL BE USEFUL FOR  
SHOWING BOTH TO THE CHINESE AND TO OTHER DIPLOMATS. I WOULD  
ALSO APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND WHICH DEPARTMENT  
CAN SEND US BY CABLE FOR USE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS BEFORE THE  
PHOTOGRAPHS ARRIVE. IN PARTICULAR, I WOULD BE INTERESTED TO  
KNOW IF DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN UP SOMALI OFFER FOR ON-SITE  
INSPECTION AT BERBERA AND, IF SO, THE RESULTS OF THAT VISIT.  
BUSH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, DIEGO GARCIA, PHOTOGRAPHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PEKING01133  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION PM  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 137931  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUL 2003  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET INSTALLATIONS AT BERBERA  
**TAGS:** MARR, MPOL, PINT, UR, SO, XO, (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006